

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
WHITE COUNTY, GEORGIA,
Cleveland, GA, September 26, 2007.

Hon. NATHAN DEAL,
Ninth District Representative,
Gainesville, GA.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN DEAL: As you are aware, recently our community suffered a tremendous loss. Sgt. Jason Harkins lost his life at 25 years of age by a roadside bomb while serving in Iraq. Weeks before his death, Sgt. Harkins went into a danger zone and saved the life of one of his soldiers. A bullet actually struck him in his helmet during the rescue. For this act of valor, his family was presented the Bronze Star Award and Purple Heart.

Jason gave the ultimate price for our community and nation. As a memorial to him, we support the Postmaster Louise S. Nix's request to pursue the act of having our postal facility in Cleveland renamed the Jason Harkins Postal Facility. As we understand it, this would in no way change the addresses of residents, but would show respect and memorialize a White County native who died for his country.

We would appreciate any assistance you could give to this action.

Sincerely,

CHRIS R. NONNEMAKER,
Chairman.

JOE CAMPBELL,
Post 1.

CRAIG BRYANT,
Post 2.

CITY OF CLEVELAND,
Cleveland, GA, October 9, 2007.

Hon. NATHAN DEAL,
Ninth District Representative,
Gainesville, GA.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN DEAL: As you are aware, recently our community suffered a tremendous loss. Sgt. Jason Harkins lost his life while serving in Iraq, by a roadside bomb. Weeks before his death, Sgt. Harkins went into a danger zone and saved the life of one of his soldiers. He actually was struck by a bullet in his helmet during the rescue. For this act of valor, his family was presented the Bronze Star Award and Purple Heart.

Jason gave the ultimate price for our community and nation. As a memorial to him, the City of Cleveland would like to ask you to pursue the act of having our postal facility in Cleveland renamed the Jason Harkins Postal Facility, understanding this would in no way change the addresses of residents but would show respect and memorialize a White County native who died for his country. Renaming a postal facility is a fairly common practice for military personnel who have lost their lives. The post office facility in most towns is the only federal building.

Jason entered into service on December 16, 2002. He was killed in action on May 6, 2007. Jason was 25 years old.

Jason attended White County Schools. Cleveland was his address of record, both Jason's mother, Nancy Fritchey, and father, Bobby Harkins, are residents of Cleveland and White County with roots going very deep and strong.

I would appreciate any assistance you could give to this action. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

DONALD STANLEY,
Mayor.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, born in Fort Campbell, Kentucky on September 29, 1981, SGT Jason Harkins was a 1999 graduate of Habersham Central High School. His commitment to military service began at an early age.

When he was a young boy, he used to run around with toy guns and swords practicing to become the Army man his father was.

Sergeant Campbell served three years in the U.S. Army Reserve and was currently serving with the Striker Brigade, Second Infantry Division based out of Fort Lewis, Washington. He never wanted to be called a hero because he believed he was just an ordinary person doing extraordinary things. Campbell however, was a hero. He proved he was a hero when he survived a roadside bomb during his first tour in Iraq. He proved he was a hero when he rescued a wounded soldier while they were under fire during his second tour.

And sadly, he proved he was a hero on May 6, 2007, when he and five other men in his platoon were killed when a makeshift bomb exploded near their vehicle. Sergeant Harkins was only 25 years old.

His decorations include the Bronze Star of valor and the Purple Heart.

Sergeant Harkins leaves behind a large family and a wife who will always remember him as a "true country boy" who found the best in every situation and could always make those around him smile.

Let us pay our respects to Sergeant Jason Harkins and remember his commitment to serving this Nation by naming the post office located at 116 Helen Highway in Fort Lewis, Washington, in his honor.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3936.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

JOHN HENRY WOOTE, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3803) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the "John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3803

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOHN HENRY WOOTE, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina,

shall be known and designated as the "John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to extend and revise their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3803, which names a postal facility in Goldsboro, North Carolina, after John Henry Wooten, Sr.

H.R. 3803, which was introduced by Representative G.K. BUTTERFIELD of North Carolina on October 10, 2007, was reported from the Oversight Committee on December 12, 2007, by a voice vote.

□ 1045

This measure has the support of the entire North Carolina congressional delegation. A native of Goldsboro, North Carolina, John Henry Wooten, Sr. was a graduate of the city's Dillard High School where he would later serve as the last principal of the school before it closed after integration. Mr. Wooten's postsecondary educational pursuits took him to North Carolina A&T State University where he earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Beyond his educational accomplishments, Mr. Wooten also was a World War II veteran having served as surgical technician in the Pacific theater for the 2nd Infantry, 10th Army Division. A loyal servant to his community, Mr. Wooten held seats on the Board of Trustees of North Carolina A&T University, Wayne County Board of County Commissioners, and on President Lyndon B. Johnson's White House Commission for Education.

Mr. Speaker, for the years in which Mr. Wooten gave unselfishly of himself for the betterment of his community and our country, I wholeheartedly agree that he is worthy of the admiration and recognition of having the postal facility on Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, named in his honor. Therefore, I would urge swift passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of this bill designating the Cashwell Drive postal facility in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building.

As an educator, public servant, and devoted member of the community, Mr. Wooten selflessly dedicated his life to those around him.

A veteran of World War II, he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from North Carolina A&T State University. Throughout his distinguished career as an educator, he served as a science teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent. He was also active in his alma mater, serving as a trustee and as the national president of the alumni association. He was one of two North Carolina educators chosen by President Lyndon B. Johnson to serve on the White House Commission for Education.

Beyond his responsibilities as an educator, Mr. Wooten, in 1986, became the first African American chairman of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, a position he ultimately held for 12 years.

His community lost a tremendous citizen when Mr. Wooten passed away in January. His dedication to family, church and community will never be forgotten. And I urge our colleagues to pass this bill in honor of a deserving human being.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the chief deputy whip and sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from North Carolina, Representative G.K. BUTTERFIELD.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois, my friend, DANNY K. DAVIS, for yielding this time to me and thank him for his leadership on this great subcommittee. I also want to thank my friend and colleague, Congresswoman VIRGINIA FOXX, for her leadership and thank her for the kind words that she had to say a few moments ago about Mr. John Henry Wooten.

But Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor this great American, John Henry Wooten, Sr. by naming the post office at 3100 Cashwell Drive in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the John Henry Wooten, Sr. Post Office Building. John Wooten was a dedicated civic leader. He was a county commissioner in the County of Wayne. It is a fitting tribute to name this post office in his honor.

John Henry Wooten, Sr. was born and reared in Goldsboro, North Carolina, many years ago. The place that he saw grow from a small farming town to a small city. Mr. Wooten attended Goldsboro public schools, a school system to which he later dedicated his professional life. He received both his bachelor's of science and master's degrees from North Carolina A&T State Uni-

versity in Greensboro, and he was a doctoral candidate at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

John Henry Wooten, Sr. served the Goldsboro city school system as a science teacher and as a principal at historic Dillard High School. He was a supervisor of instruction and later an assistant superintendent for the entire school system. As a result of his leadership, the lives of countless students were positively impacted. His accomplished career in education also included teaching at Wayne County Community College. During his entire career as an educator, Mr. Wooten was selected by President Lyndon Baines Johnson to serve on the White House Commission for Education.

John Henry Wooten served on the Wayne County Board of County Commissioners for 12 years. First elected in 1986, he became the commission's first African American chairman. While serving as commissioner, Mr. Wooten was instrumental in helping Wayne County become the great city that it is today.

A lifelong member the First African Missionary Baptist Church in Goldsboro, where incidentally my grandfather was pastor some 90 years ago, he served as chairman of the deacon board, vice chairman of the finance committee, and was also a weekly Sunday school teacher. Additionally, Mr. Wooten served on the board of trustees for North Carolina A&T State University where he served as its secretary and later as vice chairman. He was also president of the university's vast alumni association.

Mr. Wooten was married to Ernestine Whitted who, herself, was the product of a substantial Wayne County family. The Wootens were married many years ago in 1946 and were together for more than 60 years. Together, Mr. Speaker, they raised two children, John Henry, Jr. and Pamela. Mr. and Mrs. Wooten have one granddaughter, Nancy Wooten Coor, and two great granddaughters, Alysse and Abrienne. Sadly, Mr. Wooten passed away in January of 2007 after giving his life to his community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues in the North Carolina delegation, including Ms. FOXX, who is managing the time for the minority, for their full and unanimous bipartisan support of this legislation. John Henry Wooten, Sr. was a great man. He was my friend. He was a civic leader. This tribute is long overdue.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on H.R. 3803.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I also urge our colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers. I would urge passage of this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr.

DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3803.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN FALLEN MILITARY HEROES OF LOUISVILLE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4454) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3050 Hunsinger Lane in Louisville, Kentucky, as the "Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office Building", in honor of the service men and women from Louisville, Kentucky, who died in service during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4454

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN FALLEN MILITARY HEROES OF LOUISVILLE MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3050 Hunsinger Lane in Louisville, Kentucky, shall be known and designated as the "Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, now I would like to yield such time as he might consume to the sponsor of this legislation, Representative JOHN YARMUTH from Kentucky.

Mr. YARMUTH. I thank my colleague.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the eight American heroes from Louisville, Kentucky, who were taken from us in the prime of their lives these last 5 years.

While they did not serve together, they all shared a special bond of selfless dedication, love of country, and